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II Jornadas de Timor da UP

TIMOR-LESTE E O QUADRO GEOPOLITICO MUNDIAL

Paul Moore, Jr.
Bispo Resignatário Anglicano de Nova Yorque

A RECENT VISIT TO EAST TIMOR

Last December, my wife Brenda and I visited East Timor under the auspices of Asia Watch, a human rights committee located in New York. We wished to show our support for those who are struggling for their rights there and to gather as much first-hand information as our time there allowed.

Ms. Sidney Jones, the director of Asia Watch, introduced us to different people in Jakarta so that we might have a fuller understanding of East Timor before our visit. Among others, we met Ponce Princem, Slumet Bratanata, Jopie Lasut, of the New Life Prison Fellowship, and several refugees from East Timor who had associations with Fretilin. We called on the United States ambassador and his staff, and Ms. Joewano at C.S.I.S.

When we arrived in East Timor and checked into the Hotel Tourismo in Dili, we immediately sensed the presence of security forces. A prominent offical from Jakarta occupied an adjoining room. Four or five security people accompanied him. During our visit we were told that many of the people with whom we met or even those with whom we had a casual exchange were interrogated about our conversations. Apparently, the tapping of telephones is so blatant that in one instance, we were told, the monitor requested the caller not to speak in Portuguese because the monitor only spoke Indonesian! All mail on and off the island is censored.

The military presence is oppressive. In Dili, soldiers roam the streets in unifrom and carrying weapons. Benny Morandi, a prominent leader in the Indonesian military, came to the island when we were there and attended the blessing of the newly constructed Roman Catholic cathedral.

When we tried to drive up the coast to Bacau, we had a difficult time finding anyone who would drive us. As if by magic no drive-yourself cars were available for hire in any of the agencies we checked with. En route we were stopped and questioned by military police six times. Truckloads of soldiers in combat gear passed us on the road. We observed many military vehicles including tanks. We were told by reliable

sources that there are 24,000 troops in East Timor. Apparently, they harass the poor people in rural areas forcing them to leave their farms, which they then lay claim to and farm for profit. Each battalion commander, we were told, is a law unto himself. Colonel Probowo, President Suhart's son-in-law, was particularly notorious and apparently instigated some of the uglier incidents: we were told of military raiding a school of small children allegedly to find some the leaders of a demonstration pro-independence. They fired their rifles and terrified the children. Many false arrestes were made at the time of a demonstration which occured at the time of the Pope's visit. The boys, for that is what they were, were released but were tortured when they were arrested in order to make them admit to subversive behavior. At the time of our visit, twelve youths were still being held without trial. As I understand it, all but two are now free. However, when we met with Bishop Belo, we found over a dozen boys in residence for fear of arrest. They were idealistic guileless young men.

The role of the church is crucial in East Timor. We called on Bishop Belo upon our arrival. Since we could not notify him of our visit ahead of time, he was suspicious and unwilling to talk at first. After a while he opened up and began to tell us of his predicament. On the one hand, he did not want to endanger his people nor to elicit sanctions against his institutions by the government. On the other hand, he is one of the few voices who dares to speak out. He is still harassed because of his appeal to the United Nations a year ago. He, and many of the other church leaders we spoke to, feel that their people are being threatened with cultural genocide and that they are losing hope of a better future. The bishop feels it is essential to keep hope alive, especially for the younger generation, by insisting upon the East Timorense's right to have a referendum concerning the form of government they would like to have, in other words to insist on their right to self-determination.

We attended the consacration of the new cathedral. Thousands were there at seven in the morning, a most moving ceremony. The irony of the event was that the government of Indonesia had given the money to build the cathedral with the intent of engraciating themselves with the local population.

We were impressed by the church-run schools. The Salesian fathers run a splendid school near Bacau, but are not allowed to bring in any more priests to help teach. However, despite the ambivalence of the government, the school is a vibrant hopeful place, and the young people beautiful, alert, and conscientious. The Jesuits and other religious groups have schools which we did not have time to see.

We left the island with many conflicting feelings. First of all we were deeply touched by the suffering of these warmhearted people and felt their sense of despair. And we admired the courage with which they face a seemingly bleak future. While it is not for us to say what form the government should take, we affirm the momentum

toward self-determination. However, in the meantime, we felt strongly that every effort should be made to educate the able young people in skills which they could use as the country is developed in the future, because it is inevitable that development will occur. If the Timorese are available to take charge, the higher paid jobs will go to others and once again the Timorese will be exploited.

I hope that the United States will put additional pressure on the Indonesian government to cease oppressing the Timorese and to have the dispute of their sovereignty submitted to the judgement of an international body.

BIOGRAPHY OF THE RIGHT REVEREND PAUL MOORE, JR.
BISHOP OF NEW YORK (RETIRED)

The Right Reverend Paul Moore, Jr. was installed as the thirteenth bishop of New York on September 23, 1972, in the ninth year of his episcopate. Bishop Moore was elected Suffragan Bishop of Washigton in September of 1963 and was consecrated in the Washington Cathedral on January 25, 1964. He served in that capacity until his election as Bishop Coadjutor of New York in December of 1969.

Bishop Moore's ministry began at St. Peter's Church in the Chelsea area of New York City where he revived interest in the work of that downtown mission. He then went to Jersey City, New Jersey, to become part of a team ministry at Grace Church (Van Vorst) where he remained until 1957 when he was called to be Dean of Christ Church Cathedral in Indianapolis, Indiana. His election to the episcopate followed in 1963.

Born in Morristown, New Jersey on November 15, 1919, Bishop Moore is the son of the late Paul Moore and Fanny Hanna. He attended St. Paul's School in Concord, New Hampshire, and was graduated from Yale University in 1941 with a B.A. degree; he received a S.T.B. degree from General Theological Seminary in 1949. In 1960 he was awarded an honory S.T.D. fromthat seminary and in 1964 was honored with a D.D. by Virginia Theological Seminary. Berkeley Divinity School also honored him with a D.D. in 1971.

Bishop Moore serves on the National Board of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and is chairman of its "Committee of 100". He is a member of the Yale Corporation and a trustee of The General Theological Seminary, Berkeley Divinity School, Bard College, and Trinity School. He is also president of the Episcopal Mission Society, the social service arm of the Diocese of New York, and honorary president of the Seamen's Church Institute, the Youth Consultation Service, and chairman of the Governor's Council and AIDS.

One of his special interests is the relationship of the ministry to psychiatry. He has had a longtime interest in the spiritual life, and presently serves as the Protector General of the Society of St. Francis. He is also Bishop Visitor of the Order of the Holy Cross, the Order of St. Helena, and the Brotherhood of St. Gregory. His deep and unflagging interest in the plight of the cities and his concern for their survival is well known and on that issue he has spoken out many times. He has received the Social Sciences Award and the New York Urban League Award.

In Indianapolis Bishop Moore served as president of the Sanding Committee of the diocese; Deputy to General Convention and the Anglican member of the Youth Ministry of the National Council of Churches and first chairman of the council's Delta Ministry (for civil rights) in Mississipi. He was a member of the Council on Foreign Relations for six months during 1968. He was given a leave of absence, from the Diocese of Washington, to direct "Operation Connection", an interfaith coalition concerned with the relations of the new black leadership and the white community, especially in the area of economic development.

In the summer of 1970 Bishop Mooore was chairman of a peace mission to South Vietnam. He was part of a delegation to Moscow in 1982 to discuss nuclear disarmament with Soviete leaders. Recently he visited Nicaragua.

Bishop Moore is the author of a study on the urban work of the Church, THE CHURCH RECLAIMS THE CITY, published by Seabury Press in January 1965 and TAKE A BISHOP LIKE ME, Harper & Row, 1979. He has served as president of the national "Church and City Conference", composed of a group of clergy whose purpose is to enlarge the work of the Church in downtown and metropolitan areas. He also co-chaired a special advisory committee on Church and Society, which was charged with the development of social policy and the program for the Episcopal Church. He has spoken out in favor of equal rights for homosexuals.

From 1941 to 1945 the Bishop served in the U.S. Marine Corps. As a platoon leader in the Tulagi-Guadalcanal operation of the First Marine Corps Division, he was seriously wounded. Later he served as Officer in Charge of Marine V-12 program at the University of Washington Command and Staff School, and as company Commander and Operations Officer at Guam. He left the Corps with the rank of Captain, and had earned the Navy Cross, the Silver Star, and the Purple Heart. He is a member of the Manhattan District of the 369th Veterans' Association.

Bishop Moore is married to the former Brenda Hughes, who was born in Richmond, Virginia. Mrs. Moore studied at the University of Aix-Marseilles, France, the Academia del Belle Arti in Perugia, Italy, and received a B.A. from Salem College in North Carolina. From 1965 to 1967 she was protocol officer for the Algerian Ambassador in Washington, D.C.. From 1968 until 1971 she lived in Asmara, Ethiopia where she was cultural advisor to the government of Ethiopia. She was also decorated by Emperor Haile Selassie for her participation in Asmara Expo. In 1980 she directed and produced a short documentary filmed in India called "Maramon". Currently she is studying fine and decorative arts valuation at Yeshiva University in New York.

The father of nine children, Bishop Moore was formerly married to the late Jenny McKean Moore.